

THE TULSA STAR.

A. J. SMITHERMAN, Editor and Publisher.

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ALBERT SMITHERMAN, Circulation Manager.

DESERTING THE PARTY

THERE IS CONSIDERABLE TALK in Tulsa just now about certain democrats pledging their support to the republican ticket in the election Tuesday. Some very prominent men are mentioned as having taken this course, among them being Postmaster J. M. Crutchfield.

We are very much surprised that any man who claims to be a democrat in the true sense should take this step, but we are profoundly dumfounded to learn that a so called democrat who is sucking the public teat under the patronage of the democratic party should so far forget the source of his political being as to turn his back on his party in the general election, because he failed to land his choice in the primary, and openly pledge his support to the opposing ticket. Such democrats are no better than the so called Christian who deserts his church because he dislikes some of the other members therein.

The Star believes in the principles of democracy. There is no half way grounds with us. With the same constancy we believe in the integrity and ability of the democratic nominees who were decidedly the choice of the majority of the people of the democratic party in the recent primary election and we intend to stand by them to the last ditch—and then some.

There should be a day of reckoning for these disgruntle members of the party who, when things do not go as they wish, are ready to kick out of the traces and attempt to wreck the party.

Four years ago a few of this class within the democratic ranks defeated the party ticket and made it possible for a republican victory. They plan to pull off the trick again in this election but they are reckoning without the host.

Right is sure to win and for that reason the democratic ticket will march triumphantly through the election Tuesday, and then we'll have prayer by some good brother and proceed to cleanse the party of all undesirables.

"AN ODISIOUS DAMNED LIE"—SHAKESPEAR

THE ABSURD CONTENTION of supporters of the republican ticket that all the vice element in Tulsa are supporting the democratic ticket does not merit passing notice from the self-respecting people of Tulsa. As a matter of fact, there are citizens of all classes, no doubt, supporting both tickets, and it is nothing less than an open insult to the better element of Tulsa's citizenship to be classified as bootleggers and gamblers, because they chose to support the democratic nominees in the general election.

A careful review of the men who are supporting the republican ticket will reveal the fact that a great number of them have shady reputations as gamblers and bootleggers, but we would not dare charge that ALL those who vote the republican ticket are in the same category. Nor would we assume that their support of the G. O. P. ticket adds to or subtracts from the good or bad qualities of the republican nominees. Such assumption would be just as preposterous as the contentious of the Hubbard opponents that ALL the lewd people in Tulsa are supporting the democratic ticket.

But be that as it may, the democratic ticket will win because the majority of the people of Tulsa have implicit confidence in the standard bearers of that ticket.

THE RACE in Tulsa will grow and prosper in proportion to the opportunities afforded our group by the City Administration. Past records of the two parties in this city have thoroughly demonstrated that the Democrats are our best friends. No one can deny this. The present administration has surpassed all former records in giving recognition to the Colored people of this city and as true Race men and women we should give them our stamp of approval at the polls Tuesday.

THERE IS A DEAL OF DIFFERENCE between the fellow who struts about with an air of superiority and imagines himself a leader, and the fellow who gets in the trenches and delivers the goods. The latter is a doer; the former a dreamer, usually not worth the space he would occupy in hell.

THERE IS NO CHANCE for the republican ticket to be elected—not even as revised by the Tulsa World. Certainly the Colored people of Tulsa will not take chances with another republican administration as long as they can remember the Simmons regime.

THE MAN who cloaks himself in the sanctity of the Church to hide his hellish black deeds is a thousand times worse than the fellow who makes no pretensions of Godliness. For our part, we prefer the association of the latter, as between the two.

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF AUG. 24, 1912.

Of The Tulsa Star published Weekly at Tulsa, Oklahoma, for April 1, 1920, State of Oklahoma, County of Tulsa.

Before me a Notary Public in and for the State and County aforesaid, personally appeared A. J. Smitherman, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the Editor and Publisher of the Tulsa Star, and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership management, etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912 embodied in section 443, Postal Laws and Regulations, to wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor and business manager are:

Publisher A. J. Smitherman, Tulsa, Oklahoma; Editor A. J. Smitherman, Tulsa, Oklahoma; Managing Editor H. A. Clark, Muskogee, Oklahoma; Business Manager A. J. Smitherman, Tulsa, Oklahoma.

2. That the owners are: A. J. Smitherman, Tulsa, Oklahoma.

3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: None.

A. J. SMITHERMAN, Owner.
 Sworn to and subscribed before me this 29 day of March 1920.
 (Seal.)

H. AUGUSTUS GUESS
 (My commission expires Dec. 13, 1920.)

TIRED AND CRAZY, MOTHER ASKS, WHO KILLS CHILDREN

Story of Loneliness and Financial Troubles Told by Mrs. Elmer Cowart of Elk City Following Murder of Five—Dies Herself After Confession—Ax, Butcher Knife and Razor Used in Terrible Tragedy.

(Star News Service).

ELK CITY, Okla., March 31.—Scrawling but a word or two at a time, Mrs. Elmer Cowart, who early this morning killed her five children and slashed her own throat at the little tent home four miles southeast of here, told the story this afternoon of how, driven to insanity through loneliness, financial troubles and sickness, she used an axe, a butcher knife and a razor to kill her children and herself. The woman died in a hospital here at 4:15 o'clock this afternoon soon after she had told her story of the tragedy.

The five children were found dead in a tent with their heads crushed and their throats cut, by a farmer who heard their screams. A bloody axe, butcher knife and razor were found in the tent. The mother also was lying in the tent with her throat cut and in an unconscious condition and hurried to a hospital.

At the hospital this afternoon the mother wrote: "I was crazy and was tired of living. I know all about it now."

The mother could not talk because of the gaping wound in her throat, and when she regained consciousness for a short time before her death, indicated a desire to make a statement. Pencil and paper were brought and she asked for her clothing. When this was brought she showed attendants where she had secreted \$40 in bills, all that she had, and the savings of several months.

By asking questions and receiving answers by a nod or shake of the head the story of loneliness and poverty was brought out by attendants. The little tent in which the family made its home was on the farm of Mrs. Cowart's parents, but previous financial troubles had brought about an estrangement, it was said. Here the woman lived with nothing but the ground as a floor, and with limited opportunities for raising and educating her children. Sickness, she said, added to the cause of despondency and after her husband had gone to his work at a mill in Elk City this morning the loneliness overbalanced her mind.

Funeral arrangements for the mother and her children have not been made.

Screams of the children attracted a man who was plowing a field nearby, but all the children were dead before he reached the tent and the mother had succeeded in slashing her own throat. The oldest of the children is a boy 10 years old and the others are a girl 7, a girl 5, a boy 8 and a baby girl, 4 months old.

The three older children were found piled on a bed, their heads crushed and their throats cut, while the other two were lying beside the mother on the floor, in the same condition.

She had been slightly despondent since an attack of influenza, her husband said today, but had shown no signs of mental derangement. Mr. Cowart arose early this morning and before he went to his work, his wife prepared his lunch for him apparently well and in the best of spirits.

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